

Message Text

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12

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SUBJECT: INTERIOR MINISTER REVEALS ARREST OF "ARMED EXTREME
LEFTISTS"

1. IN THE PAST SEVERAL WEEKS THE EMBASSY HAS HEARD RUMORS CONCERNING ARREST AND DETENTION OF FAR-LEFT LABOR AND POLITICAL ACTIVISTS. ONE POLICE SOURCE TOLD US THAT "A PLANELOAD" OF FAR-LEFT MINE UNION ACTIVISTS HAD BEEN SENT TO THE JUNGLE PRISION SPA. OTHER RUMORS ALLEGED DEPORTATION OF LEFTISTS INCLUDING FORMER EXPRESO COLUMNISTS. IN FACT, EXPRESO GROUP IS STILL IN LIMA AND NOW ERITING FOR MOSCOW-LINE PERIODICAL MOMENTO.

2. MINISTER OF INTERIOR CISNEROS ON APRIL 14 CONFIRMED "THE DETENTION OF COUNTER-REVOLUTIONARY GROUPS, PRESUMABLY OF THE EXTREME LEFT, WHO WRE FOUND WITH FIREARMS AND EXPLOSIVES". ACCORDING TO AN ACCOUNT IN GOP DAILY LA CRONICA, ONLY NEWSPAPER TO CARRY STORY, MINISTER CISNEROS SAID THAT FIFTEEN PERSONS HAD BEEN PICKED UP TO DATE. THEY WERE ARMED AND, THEREFORE, GOP WOULD BE "INFLEXIBLE".

THE INTERIOR MINISTER STATED THAT GOP HAD NOT YET DETERMINED IF DETAINEES WERE MEMBERS OF VANGUARDIA RVOLUCIONARIA, THE MIR, BANDERA ROJA OR PATRIA ROJA (ALL FAR-LEFT SPLINEER GROPS) BUT "THERE WERE ALL IN THAT CATEGORY". CISNEROS STATED THAT ARRESTS TOOK PLACE DURING LAST WEEK OF MARCH AND FIRST WEEK OF APRIL.

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HE PROMISED THAT THE INTERIOR MINISTRY WOULD SOON PROVIDE

MORE INFORMATION ON THIS CASE.

3. LEFTIST WEEKLY MARKA, WHICH IS OFTEN ACCURATE IN THESE MATTERS, CLAIMED IN ITS LATEST ISSUE THAT PEDRO REAUEJO, THE SECRETARY OF ORGANIZATION OF FAR-LEFT CAMPESINO CONFIDERICION, CCP, DISAPPEARED FOLLOWING A CCP EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING IN LIMA APRIL 11. UNSTATED CONCLUSION IS THAT REQUEJO IS NOW IN THE HANDS OF POLICE.

4. COMMENT: GOP APPEARS INCREASINGLY CONCERNED ABOUT REACTION FROM MARXIST POLITICAL AND LABOR GROUPS TO ITS RECENT SHIFT TOWARD CENTER OF REVOLUTIONARY SPECTRUM. THE GOVERNMENT SEEMS TO BE UTILIZING "PREVENTIVE DETENTION" ON A LIMITED BASIS. FAR-LEFT LABOR GROUP HAS SCHEDULED AN ANTI-CCUSC ANTI-GOVERNMENT (AND ANTI-SOVIET) RALLY IN DOWNTOWN LIMA APRIL 15. LEFTIST METAL AND MINE UNIONS THREATEN NATION-WIDE STRIKES AT END OF APRIL AND EARLY MAY TO PROTEST GOP COMMITMENT TO "LABOR DISCIPLINE". GOVERNMENT HANDLING OF DEMONSTRATIONS AND STRIKES (IF THEY MATERIALIZE) WILL BE AN INDICATOR OF GOP RELATIONSHIP WITH THE LEFT AND ULTRA-LEFT, AND GOVERNMENT COMMITMENT TO NEW LABOR POLICY.
DEAN

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